

Diverse Changes in Diversity Center



(Above) Dr. Cheryl Chatman is the new Dean of Diversity at CSP.

By Lisa M. Jensen

Webster's dictionary defines diverse as "made up of distinct characteristics, qualities, or elements" and defines diversity as "the fact or quality of being diverse; difference and a point or respect in which things differ."

Executive Vice President of Concordia, Dr. Kay Madson, defines diversity according to Concordia's mission statement, in which the term "diversity" includes age, racial, and ethnic diversity, as well as gender equity.

Dr. Cheryl Chatman, Concordia's new Dean of Diversity defines diversity as "acknowledging, being sensitive to, learning about and celebrating differences in people's heritage, background, culture, and personal lives."

Different people define this word in a variety of ways. Dr. Cheryl Chatman was appointed to the university's

Dean of Diversity effective on November 1, 2000. At Concordia, she is responsible for directing the university's efforts to achieve the strategic priority of building "a diverse campus community in the spirit of Christian harmony." She also will work closely with campus student groups and others to increase multicultural education opportunities.

Chatman earned a B.S. in Psychology from Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, FL and went to receive her M.S. in Child Development from Iowa State University. Chatman also has a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Administration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

What are her goals were for her new job at CSP? Chatman said that she would like to "help the Concordia community see and experience diversity at a deeper level in new and different ways [because] differences in people will always exist so there will always be a need for us to address and enhance diversity." Chatman would also like for "all students [to] feel that they have a right to be here and are comfortable here [at Concordia]."

Chatman's position will put her in charge of fulfilling Concordia's vision and bridging that vision of where CSP is currently and working in diversity issues and the current state of it. Her plan of attacking the issue of diversity starts with "finding out as a whole where Concordia sees itself in relation to diversity" and then "finding out where we are and where we want to be."

President Holst, as quoted by the CSP Update, says, "Dr. Chatman's extensive experience in managing multicultural and special service programs in the education setting makes her an excellent addition to the Concordia community. The personal gifts and commitment to multicultural education she brings to her position will be a blessing to our students, faculty, and staff."

Dr. Kay Madson adds, "I believe Dr. Chatman brings outstanding personal and professional qualifications to the position of Dean of Diversity. She has extensive experience working with colleges and universities, including directing the Martin Luther King Program at the University of Minnesota." Dr. Madson looks to the future by saying, "In five years, I hope we will see measurable progress toward our goal of being a more diverse campus. Several years ago, the Strategic Planning

Council set a goal of increasing the racial diversity of the campus from 12%—what it was at that time—to 17%. I hope we will have achieved that goal by 2005. Even more important is the goal of promoting an atmosphere of respect and understanding for all members of the campus community."

Chatman has had various jobs working with students. She worked at Winston-Salem University as the off-campus coordinator of a child development training center before becoming the Director of Special Services. Chatman also was Director of Student Life, which included housing, health services and judicial affairs. Chatman then moved to Portland, OR with her husband and worked at a school as a principal for teenage mothers. Then Chatman moved with her husband to the Minneapolis area where she worked at the University of Minnesota as the

coordinator of the Martin Luther King Program. She moved to Chicago afterward and worked for the ELCA as Assistant Director for Colleges and Universities, where she was responsible for academic, faculty and staff programs for the ELCA system of colleges and universities.

Chatman enjoys working in an administration position and with students because she has a "passion to serve God." She is anxious to be used by God in ways that she has not been before and to be very connected with the people that she meets. In five years, Chatman sees herself open for opportunities and hopes to be used by God and to just be "happy serving the Lord."

President Holst Visits China

By Shaunna Trump

President Bob Holst and nine other presidents of the Minnesota Private College Council traveled to the Peoples' Republic of China on Oct. 31 to Nov. 11 on a special educational tour. Madame Wei Yu, China's Minister of Education had invited the group to tour institutions in Beijing, Xian and Shanghai. Dr. David Laird, President of the Minnesota Private College Council (MPCC) organized the tour. Dr. Burt Levine, a former US ambassador in the Far East, his wife and several other individuals accompanied the group.

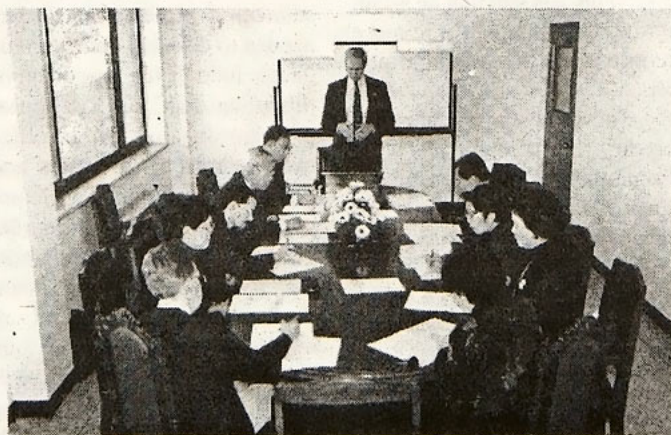
The purpose of the visit was to promote and to explore establishing relationships with the department of education in China and the 16 members of

the MPCC. Yu reported that there is room for only one in ten high school graduates at the Public universities in China. To meet the needs of other qualified students, China has great interest in the form and structure of private education in Minnesota. Private colleges in China are growing rapidly. One private college visited by the MPCC group was started in 1995 but already has 12,000 students. The goal is 18,000 in the next academic year. The primary courses of study are English, communications, business and computers. US business leaders, who were also visited by the MPCC group, stated that China has some of the most advanced computer technology in the world, including the chips in

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SEAT (South East Asian Teaching) Program recognized its graduates at a formal banquet in the Pearson lobby December 1. Pictured above in the photo at left are Dr. William Staley, Director of the Program, Dr. Douglas Hartford, Vice President for University Advancement, Dana Abrams, Monica Valbuena, Khou Moua, Lee Pao Xiong, Tseeleey Lee. In the photo at right are Connie Strohschein, Administrative Assistant in Education, Dr. Donald Sellke, Professor of Education, Dr. Roberta Kaufman, Dean of the College of Education, Kasya Willhite, Associate Faculty, Lonn Maly, Assistant Professor of Education, Bee Xiong, Mai Kai Lor. Funded to the extent of \$500,000 a year by the Minnesota State Legislation, the SEAT program currently helps 32 individuals who are already employed by area schools (as aids, translators, and so forth) to gain their teaching licenses. The event celebrated five previous graduates and five prospective graduates.



President Holst delivering a guest lecture to the Lutheran Theological University campus faculty and guests. Photo submitted

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Humorous Enchantment Landing in Schools



(Above) J.K. Rowling is popular since the publication of Harry Potter books.

By Michelle Wolfram
Set in another world of flying cars, whomping willows, house elves, Quidditch (a sport played on broomsticks) and more, the Harry Potter book series inspire the imagination. According to Sue A. Ellingwood, Lexington Area Supervisor for The Saint Paul Public Library in Minnesota, their library system has purchased 117 copies of the latest Harry Potter book, "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire." The Borders bookstore on University Avenue received 400 copies in its first shipment of this book. What makes these

books so enchanting? "Humor and wonderfully drawn characters," said Dr. Jeffrey Burkart, professor of Educational Media/Communications at Concordia University, "make these books so appealing to youth." He outlined one humorous scene in which Harry and his friend Ron take Ron's father's car, fly it to school and accidentally crash into the Whomping Willow tree. "These are things that happen to teenagers [without Rowling's element of fantasy]," Burkart said, "and it is interesting for kids because they see

things in a little different light."

Ben Reed, a seventh grader at Mt. Hope/Redemption school, said that he likes all four books, "because even though [they are] not real, they interest you," and they offer "adventure and excitement."

Diane Opperman, teacher at Iola-Scandinavia Elementary, integrated the book "Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone" into a one week summer enrichment class for third- and fourth-grade students who "self-selected" to be in the class. "I picked Harry Potter because I had read the books and loved them. I also knew that they were the 'hot' books on the best seller list and the 'in' books to be reading," Opperman said. She mentioned that the books have many themes, such as good over evil, getting along with peers and overcoming adversity. "I see no reason that they shouldn't be

read in classrooms. I would hope that people who want to censor them would read them before forming an opinion," Opperman said.

Concerning censorship and the controversy of the word of wizardry, Burkart said, "parents have the right and the obligation to consider that kind of thing when choosing any book. They have the right and obligation to monitor what their children read and see on television. However, it is important that parents do that with information, and not merely because someone told them not to [read the books]." Parents need to "find out for themselves," Burkart said. "For some children, the books might scare them. One child laughs, and one cries. You have to know your kids."

Jamie Fredrickson, a seventh grader at Mt.

Hope/Redemption, said, "He [Harry Potter] is really good." When asked about what age people may want to start reading Harry Potter, Fredrickson said that "kids should start out as the age of Harry and grow up with him." "They are fun to read," said Fredrickson.

"Rowling create[s] a secondary world," Burkart said. Rules different from the real world are consistently applied. From this, "now our own world is a little bit clearer." He said that what is great about the hero [Harry Potter] is that "he is willing to give his life for his friends." He does "right in the face of people telling him it is better taking the low road." However, this is not to say that Harry Potter does not have problems. Rowling uses classical metaphors, said Burkart, and she shows how Harry, in his world, "is involved in the struggle of

Students and Kids Work Hand in Hand

By Anna M. Janke

"The wheels on the bus go round and round..." just as the legs on the kids at the Hand in Hand Child Care Center go from activity to activity. First, and foremost, they play. After some coercion, the children clean up the puzzles, blocks, trucks and animals, and then take part in "Circle Time," which consists of sharing, music, the unit topic, religion, and art. Once they have eaten the morning snack, prepared by student worker Lindsey Burken, the hallway of Wollaeger Hall or the playground outside becomes a place of imagination. Next is story time, followed by lunch and sweet dreams. Then it is back into the hallway for more playtime as they awaken; the jungle gym becomes an airplane, a zoo, a bus or a house. Their day ends with clean up, snack, more playtime and the arrival of loving parents.

Started in January of 1983, with the idea of becoming a lab school for the students at Concordia University, Hand in Hand serves the faculty, students and community parents every day. "[Hand in Hand] would give students a place to go if they needed to do some hours for volunteer time or the practicum or things like that," said Kris Speiss, program director. In an office overwhelmed with papers and items for the children, a picture of her son, Joe, sits on the corner of her desk. A 1985 CSP graduate, Speiss became the infant teacher after learning of an opening at the center. She took the director position two years ago. "It's different not being with the kids every day, but otherwise I like it," Speiss said.

"The biggest disadvantage

[of having the center on campus] is when I can't get enough students, because even some of the best students whom I would like to hire, I can't, because their schedules don't jive with what I have open," said Speiss. Some students, such as Burken, arrive at 7:30 or 8 a.m. to accommodate both their own, and the center's schedules. "I really like working with kids, and I kind of needed a kid fix," said Burken, a sophomore majoring in Elementary Education and Director of Christian Education, who also gets Human Relations hours for her time spent with the kids. "They were very desperate for help last January, and they didn't care that I didn't have work study," said Burken, now a regular worker. Speiss looks for workers that "have some kind of early childhood experience." Though multiple child experience it is not a requirement, "It's very different from being with one child or two children. When you're with one baby, it's fine, but when you have 10 or 11 or more, it gets to be very different." Of her time at the center, Burken said, "It offers a good experience for me and other students who are going into teaching."

The center is split into three age groups. The infant room ranges from six weeks to 15 months, and currently 12 little ones are fed, cared for and put to sleep under the direction of the head teacher

Tammy Schoer. Tracy Lobin's 12 rambunctious toddlers are aged 16 months to 35 months. The 20 tried and true preschoolers, aged 35 months to 5 years, follow the instructions of Lacey Wellens and Marlene Hafner. "The older [preschool-



(Above) A CSP student patiently points out pictures to a child.

ers) are definitely the more helpful ones and are going to be more likely to understand something. The younger ones are much more difficult; it really depends on the morning," said Burken. "I love the babies. It's really relaxing working in that room. With the preschoolers, you have to convince them that they need you."

The goal of the center is simple: To raise children who are children of God, have a positive self-concept, can identify their own emotions, are healthy, physically coordinated, gain an understanding of their community, can use language to communicate with others, express themselves in many ways, are curious and want to learn, are independent, and have a love for reading and writing.

By keeping the legs of the kids busy from activity to activity, the goal can be met.

The children, teachers, and student workers work together to make sure the school bus from the children's song goes "All through the town."

Fink Mulling Over Details

By Andrew Bosl

Spring a group of Concordia students began a television news program that was operated out of the black box theatre.

During the first semester of this year the show is still growing. Chris Fink is the mastermind behind the television program detail.

This is Fink's second television program that he has produced. Concordia Match was the other program.

"I just thought Concordia needed a television program," Fink said about his reason for starting the show.

Fink's co-producers are Josh Whitcomb and Jen Dupic. The three are responsible for finding musical guests and in studio guests as well as advertisers.

The show is currently being taped at the SPNN studio at Higher Ground Academy, next to the Finance and Operations Building, across from the Ganglehoff center on Marshall.

There are essentially two parts to the show. First, the in studio interviews and musical guests. Secondly, reporters go around campus and around the

city to report on issues that are important to Concordia students.

detail, spelled with a small d, has had the chance to interview St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman. In the interview, detail was actually able to scoop the two major newspapers of the Twin Cities.

In the interview Coleman said that he would not be seeking a third term as Mayor of St. Paul.

This information was revealed several weeks later in the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Star Tribune newspapers.

The same episode featured Governor Jesse Ventura.

Fink has said that he is currently looking for more reporters for the second semester.

The show can be taken for credit through the Communications Department. Chris Fink can be reached through e-mail address detail@csp.edu.

Watch detail on Channel 27 on Sunday and Thursday Evenings

International Students Need Support

By Masayuki Tada

There are many students in colleges in the United States who come from different countries. The international students have a great opportunity to study and to learn about other countries' cultures. Nevertheless, they have many problems adjusting to a new culture such as friendship, studying and more. I would like to know how many American students understand how the international students feel and how American students accept them in their culture.

I had an interview on Oct. 27 at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport with Kana Myoken, who is one of the international students from Japan. Myoken came to the United States in August 1997. She graduated from Highline Community College in Washington in May 1999.

Myoken was excited to come to the United States to study because she thought every American person was friendly and nice to foreign people. When Myoken was in an

English Language School in Japan, her teacher aroused her curiosity about American people. Once Myoken got into college, she was shocked because real American life was totally different from what she thought it would be. She was trying to make friends on campus, but most of the students were not nice to her because her English skills were not good enough to communicate with them.

One day, Myoken found the International Student Club at Highline Community College. She was curious to learn what kind of organization that was; she went to a club meeting. There were other international students and some American students in the club. Everyone was friendly to her; some students helped her study and make new friends. Myoken said, "This is what I was expecting in the college life. If I did not find this club and the club's members, my American life would have been changed a lot." They encouraged her life

in America by being friends.

Most American colleges have an international student organization. These organizations help international students with their college life or with immigration problems such as having a student Visa. Even though Concordia is a small college, we used to have an International Student Association Club (ISAC).

This is what I was expecting of college...

According to Concordia University's ISAC web page, "International students are far from home, so we get homesick once in a while, but our members and our wonderful advisor will help you get over this problem." We had much fun in the past a few years; however, we do not have an international student advisor or a club since this semester started. If new international students come here, they will have

many problems because they do not have a club to go to for help or an international student advisor's help.

As I showed in Myoken's story, the student club helped her college life. I do not know how many people understand how exchange students feel. If American students were to go to another country by themselves, then they would know how much harder it is to study another language and live in a different country. It is hard to explain this to people who have never been to another country.

Miya Kinoshita, who used to attend the University of St. Thomas, talked about how the University of Minnesota Twin Cities has an excellent program for international students, which is called International Student Scholar Services. Kinoshita said, "This organization will take care of international students once they arrive

at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport." Even though the University of Minnesota is the biggest school in the state, it helps international student as much as it can with this organization. Most international students do not know where they should go when they get here; this organization's members will pick them up and they will make them feel comfortable at a new school.

Many international students will continue to come to the United States to attend college in the future. I hope every college will take care of these students and make them feel comfortable staying here. American students might not understand international students' English or culture sometimes, but it will be a great opportunity to talk with them and to learn about another culture.

International Diners Club Promotes Friendships

By Monica Lin

"Hey, Dr. Beilke, you are in charge of the next outing. After you pick the place and set up the date, send an e-mail to everyone. OK? And bring your husband - he is Russian, right? We could go to a Russian restaurant this time...Don't forget to tell them to be there ON TIME!"

Can you tell this is a conversation between a college student and a professor? If you would like to join in such conversations, consider joining the International Diners Club (IDC). IDC is made up of a variety of people who are interested in international cultures, ethnic food and making new friends. Originally, most of the members were students of CSP who belonged to the International Student Association of Concordia (ISAC). They came from all over the world - Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Panama, Russia, Spain etc. - to study in the U.S. Members of this club became close. Not only to their fellow students, but also to students' significant others, friends and even their pets. During the school year, this club held a lot of cultural events.

After some members transferred to other states, graduated or returned to their own countries, the rest of the ISAC members who remained in Minnesota thought they should see each other more often before they became permanently separated. That was the original idea of the diners'

club. The point of the club is not to go to fancy restaurants, not to show off job achievements, not to compete with each other. The point is simply to see friends and get caught up on their lives.

Each member of this group is from a different place of the world. They are students, professors, neighbors, husbands, wives, former strangers. IDC members from seven countries speak seven languages, include a variety of skin colors, and speak English with a unique accent. They have gone to restaurants featuring Mongolian, Mexican, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, German and other types of foods. They are like a big family, with each person taking a turn planning the next outing. They see each other grow and achieve success in the U.S. over the years. They were just young innocent kids when they met each other four years ago. Now, some have graduated, some are working, some are back home and some are getting married. Belonging to IDC helps members to nurture and cherish international friendships that will last a lifetime.

If you are interested in joining the International Diners Club, contact Dr. Debra Beilke at <beilke@csp.edu> or 651-641-8260. You do not have to be "international" yourself; you just need an interest in expanding your horizons.

By Heather Sandberg
"I didn't like my name; it was hard to spell and say," admitted the former Kim Kachemyer. Out of respect for her parents she kept her full name until they both passed away; soon after, she began using her new name - Kimora. "I came upon the name in a fashion magazine." A model was wearing a dress made by designer Emmanuel Ungaro.

"The model's name was Kimora Perkins and as soon as I saw it I knew that would be my name," she said. Although she has been using the name for a few years, she did not file the papers to change her name legally until Oct. 25, 2000. "I had to use the name for a while because I was not getting a divorce or trying to disappear, and so that people could get used to it."

Kimora has been teaching for the Concordia School of Accelerated Learning (CSAL) since 1993. Three years ago she became a full-time faculty member and director of the Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management program. On June 30, 2000 she became the director of the Master of Arts in Organizational Management program when the former director, Dr. Chuck Nuckles, stepped down to work with Concordia's College of Graduate and Continuing Studies as a full time faculty member.

"There are tremendous problems in organizations [that people work for]," Kimora said. CSAL offers "self-directed, application-based programs" for people already in the workforce. The classes discuss a wide array of issues including, ethics, communication and leadership. "[Kimora] is

unique, so respectful, and sets the tone of respect in the class; watching to see who is and who is not answering the questions," Joanie Davis said, an Organizational Management graduate student. Advanced learning allows students to be more aware of issues and fosters his or her ability to bring about change and build community. Kimora said, "When we discover a problem [in an organization], we need to form an opinion and solve it; we cannot just sit around and theorize about it."

Change in the commu-

We cannot just sit around and theorize about it.

nity is just what Kimora seeks. "[She is] driven to make the world a better place," said Richard Brynteson, associate professor of Marketing for CSAL. "She works many, many hours per day...I get e-mails at 2:30a.m. from her." Sigrid Skaaland, CSAL receptionist said, "[Kimora is] very respectful, always willing to listen to people's viewpoints. She encourages that, not in a demanding way, but in a supporting way. She validates you as an individual."

Although Kimora was born in Brazil, she remembers very little of her time spent there. Kimora attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison where she obtained both her B.A. and M.A. Her Ph.D. in Marketing Education is from the University of Minnesota. Her husband, Todd, a family practice physician, also prefers to be called by only one name - Srijan.

Both Srijan and Kimora

enjoy making their own clothing. "[Kimora wears] clothing that suits her personality," said Skaaland, "I like to kid her because she moves around so fast. She comes in wearing running shoes and when she teaches she changes into real sexy shoes with a high heel."

Kimora's doctoral dissertation focused on cognitive rehabilitation skills (management of emotions, problem solving, values enhancement, social skills, critical thinking, and creative thinking) in a prison setting. She is currently working with Anoka County on GED (General Education Diploma) enhancement and with the federal government in mandating a cognitive skills and rehabilitation program. "There is a need for implementing social skills since 95 percent of inmates get released," Kimora said, "They're children of God, too." Her profile in the prison system is another reason why Kimora changed her name; "I was tired of inmates asking about my last name."

In 1990, Brynteson taught at the Stillwater Prison with Kimora. "[The inmates] listen to her; she sees deeper than most people see."

For Davis it was difficult to pick only one of Kimora's characteristics that she aspired to have: "There's a lot. Balance: she seems to be able to create that in her life. She's able to achieve balance at home, work, research, and still take time for herself by eating well and exercising. I

"I love it here," Kimora said about Concordia. "[It is a] great community and we speak the same language; I am really happy."

Letters to the Editor:

Is it Too Correct to be Politically Correct

Has it gotten out of hand? Have people gone one step too far? Is it hurting more rather than helping? Being politically correct isn't always the correct way to go. Around the winter holidays people get especially tense and protective of what is "their" own. Instead of accepting and respecting other people's viewpoints, our society seems to have banned everyone else's ideas. Is that really the answer, though? Aren't we losing more than we are gaining? It doesn't make any sense.

Being politically correct is a very important issue right now. No one wants to step on anyone else's "toes" because so many people have become so sensitive to the issue of what is different.

It is a large concern throughout the year, yet being politically correct becomes much more important and noticeable around the holiday season. What is allowable to say and what is not is now very questionable.

Things aren't so clear cut in our society. It isn't politically correct to wish someone "Merry Christmas" anymore. With so many different backgrounds and cultures in America's society, it can't be assumed that everyone cele-

brates the Christmas holiday. Yet, a simple greeting of goodwill shouldn't be harmful or wrong.

It is a positive message of warmth and friendship that I am offering. I am not preaching my faith. If someone else believes, that is all the better, but I am not forcing, or even offering, anything, but goodwill toward the other person.

It's just another way to say hello during the month of December. By becoming so sensitive today, people have a difficult time hearing the true message behind greetings.

Christmas did start with a deeply religious meaning. It signified the birth of Jesus Christ. That religious meaning is still there for Christians, but Christmas has also changed for many people in our culture and around the world.

To many people, Christmas simply signifies the end of another year. To others, Christmas is a time of parties and celebration with loved ones.

Gifts being exchanged, and time spent with families is very common during the season, whether it is a religious time or not. It is a time for joy and gathering of loved ones.

It shouldn't be a threat-

ening or offensive matter to hear someone offer a word of cheer like "Merry Christmas."

In fact, it should be just the opposite. Instead of banning everyone from celebrating and sharing, it would be a happier place for everyone to welcome all the differences people have.

To accept the different views and learn about each other would not only make each person feel better about their own beliefs, but make the world a better and more informed place.

It could possibly open doors that people never thought could be opened.

With America's extremely diverse culture, we might even learn about our neighbors and friends, bringing our communities and even our world closer together.

Instead of worrying what other people are doing differently, we could all open ourselves up to change and learn about other cultures and other people.

By celebrating our differences, we can come together and find the similarities each of us share.

Anne Bjostad

President Holst In China

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cellular phones that will work in every system anywhere in the world.

Holst had many goals for the trip. He said, "I wanted to learn if there are ways in which Concordia, St. Paul can establish a meaningful exchange program with universities in the Peoples' Republic of China. I personally and professionally want to be a more informed person with regard to global issues." The trip met and exceeded his expectations. He thinks the MPCC visit shared helpful information and perspectives on higher education. Future contacts will deter-

mine development of student and faculty exchange programs. The MPCC invited Yu and other Chinese educational leaders to visit Minnesota in 2001. Holst also said, "The visit increased awareness of the challenges of education in a global perspective. The visit increased appreciation of the antiquity and accomplishments of the Chinese culture as evidenced by the Great Wall and the Chin Dynasty's terra cotta army. On the other hand, the energy of the modern Chinese educators and the burgeoning construction in the modern cities like Shanghai testify to the importance of the increasing importance of know-

ing more about China in the years to come."

On the way to China, Holst stopped in Korea and visited former CSP exchange students at Lutheran Theological University near Seoul. He lectured to the faculty and other members of the academic community.



President Holst in front of the Great Wall China. Photo submitted

Holst Sends Joyful Words

"Dites-moi pourquoi la vie est belle! Dites-moi pourquoi la vie est gaie!"

I love those questions that began the choral music of CSP's production of South Pacific: simple existential questions yet carrying profound ontological significance! Great questions with which to begin the holiday season! Great questions to ponder as we end a semester!

I marvel at the bold assumption behind the questions. Not, "Is life beautiful?" but "Why is life beautiful?" Not, "Is life happy?" but "Why is life happy?"

I confess that not always have I held that assumption. The year I lived in Canada - far from friends, family and fiancée - life often felt more lonely and insecure than beautiful and happy.

I remember Christmas Eve. I was driving alone eighty miles across the plains of Alberta after leading a worship service.

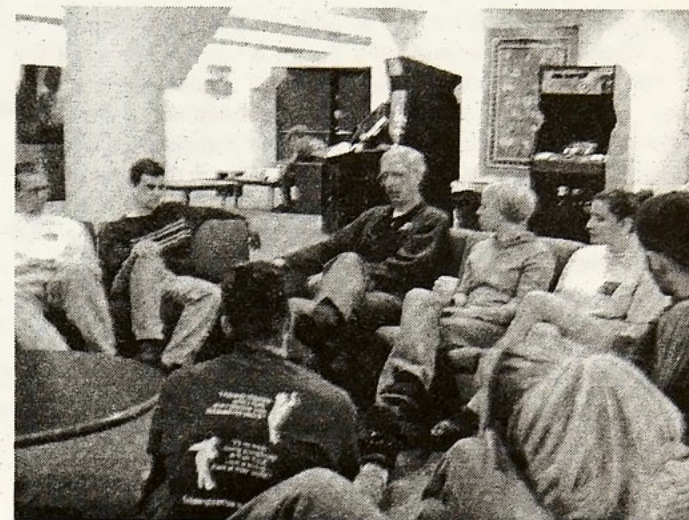
At midnight, I felt sorry for myself as the lights of my car and of a full moon floated over miles of frigid, snow-covered roads and fields.

Then suddenly, out of the darkness, a deer pranced in the

field and then danced across the road. Surprised, I laughed out loud. A runaway deer! Where were Santa and the missing seven? Then the grace of the moment struck me. Startling, graceful beauty in an awesome setting!

Circumstances had not changed but I had. I drove on alone but aware of the beauty of life surrounding me. The moment remains frozen in my memory's eye like a grand master's painting!

Taking tests and writing papers can leave one wondering if life is beautiful or happy.



President Holst Fires Up Students at Fireside Chat

By Becca Hansen

Students had the opportunity to meet and discuss concerns with University President Robert Holst this past month. The Student Senate sponsored event held in the Student Union had a great turnout. Homework and small talk quickly turned into a big group discussion, as Holst answered questions and concerns raised by students. Questions ranged from scholarships to campus improvements and security. This event brought the students together with an outlet they could turn to for support and help.

Are Public Bulletin Boards Really Open to the Public?

Letter to the Editor

Several times in the last year I have posted signs on Concordia's public bulletin boards only to see them taken down in a matter of days. Perhaps I am in violation of a posting policy I don't know about. If this is the case, please disregard this letter.

If this is not the case however, I believe I am a victim of lack of civility on the part of some members of the Concordia community. My most recent removed postings were removed the week of Oct. 16-20.

I posted two posters for the Twin Cities Gay and Lesbian Film Festival that runs in several area theaters Oct. 20-31. The posters were sent to me by an organization at the University of Minnesota because the U Film Society is involved.

I have posted other things for them in the past, but they usually stayed on the boards longer. These recent posters were removed several times and I found them in the recycling bins and put them back up. On Oct. 20, however, I could no longer find them in the recycling

bins.

I obviously don't expect many people at Concordia to be supportive of GLBT issues. I happen to be, but that's not the point of this letter. The point is that individuals should not feel vindicated to remove postings just because they disagree with them. This is far from a civil atmosphere where disagreements can be discussed maturely. I happen to think a quality institution of higher learning should have this atmosphere and for the most part, Concordia does.

However, to those of you who removed the postings, please think about what kind of place you want Concordia to be. Should it be a place where everyone agrees about everything, and thus learns nothing, or a place where we are free to disagree in a civil manner, and thus free to truly learn and grow as people?

Ethan Mills
Library
Circulation Coordinator

Rephrase the wonder. Why is life beautiful? Why is life happy? May the reasons expand and multiply like exploding popcorn! Human love makes life beautiful!

God's love creates human love. God's care makes humans care. Caring people make life happy!

As a Christian, Christmas takes my mind and faith back to

the birth of Jesus. I believe that God's love entered the world in a humble, grace-filled way.

It reminds me that God's love is with us always. May the holy moments in your life remind you that, by God's grace, "La vie est belle! La vie est gaie!"

President Bob Holst

Concordia Mission Society Goes South

By: Anne Podoll

We're all looking forward to Christmas Break. It's a time to relax, see friends at home, and catch up on sleep. For some, it will be a time to serve.

Over Christmas break, approximately 30 Concordia students will travel to Florida or Haiti to take part in servant events. Concordia Mission Society (CMS) sponsors these trips, one in America and one abroad, every year over

Christmas break.

On Jan. 5, 2001 13 students will head down to Port-au-Prince, Haiti to work in an orphanage. During their time there, the CMS group will play with the children, sing and put on skits. The group will also do some fix-it jobs for the orphanage. They will be gone until Jan. 12, 2001.

The day after the Haiti trip departs, 15 students will be travelling to Florida to take part in servant events. These

students will be working at the church in Merritt Island where Aimee Bruening (fourth-year Concordia student) is serving as a DCE intern. At the church, the volunteers will help with various activities, such as aiding people with physical and developmental disabilities, working with the church youth groups, and helping Habitat for Humanity. They will return Jan. 13, 2001.

Although it is too late to

join one of these trips for this year, you can still help in the ministry in one very important way: pray for the groups. Specifically, pray for strength in faith, flexibility for the groups in listening to what God wants them to do, and safety for the groups as they travel, work and minister.

Consider joining CMS next year for one of its' Christmas break trips. Students who have gone before have this to say about their experiences:

"CMS trips greatly impact both you and the people that you are working with. The bond of fellowship that is shared in the love of Jesus Christ is simply amazing. When you see people smile and laugh there is a peace

that Jesus brings to your heart," (CMS president Melissa Jacobitz).

"It's amazing how Christ can combine almost complete strangers into lifelong friends. Some of my closest friends as a senior in college are those that I made while on a CMS trip my freshman year of college. Spiritually, I can feel God working in me and helping me become a better leader. I don't normally like to talk in front of groups, but knowing that I am doing it for the Lord enables me to get past my fears. Last year on a CMS trip to Louisiana, I even enjoyed putting on skits for the congregation," (Rebekah Thompson)

Santa Claus: To Believe, or Not to Believe...

By Stephanie Gruhn

Not to Believe

Whenever I tell people that I never believed in Santa Claus, I am met with shock. "What?!" "You must have had a deprived childhood!" "How could you not believe in Santa?" I usually shrug and say that my parents chose not to encourage the myth.

I realize that this sounds like something out of Miracle on 34th Street, but it's honestly not. By this point in our lives, we all know that there is no such thing as Santa Claus (for those of you who didn't know this yet, I'm sorry to be the bearer of bad news). We know that the gifts always came from our parents.

When I was three, my grandparents and other extended family lived in Nebraska, while my immediate family lived in Tennessee. My mother loves to tell the story of one day after church. A woman in the congregation came up to me and asked, "Is Santa bringing you your presents this year?" I looked at her and said, "No, the man in the brown truck is!" I knew Grandma and Grandpa would be sending presents via UPS for Christmas.

Not teaching me or my sister about Santa wasn't without its share of difficulties for my parents. I always knew that the community Santa Claus was really a man from

our church, and had to be reminded each year not to spill the beans to the other children. Of course, it did save my mother the frustration of waiting in mall lines so I could sit on a man's lap, get my picture taken, and babble my list of "I-wants." Not teaching about Santa gave my parents more room to teach about the importance of giving.

That's not to say that I wasn't greedy - I still made a list of toys a mile long every year. I just had a much more direct route to the gift givers - I'd hand my list to my parents, knowing that I wouldn't get everything but hoping to get a lot of it. From an early age, we knew that mom's closet was off-limits during the month of December. We knew our mother was as good as Santa at knowing if we were naughty or nice, and she made it clear that if we so much as peeked, every gift would be returned to the store.

I think Christians have a hard time dealing with this question of Santa Claus. Should we teach our children about this story? Is it wrong? I can see it both ways. First of all, children will be exposed to Santa, no matter what parents do in the home. The big man in the red coat is everywhere this time of year. I've always appreciated the way the movie Santa Claus is Coming to Town portrayed the story: Kris



Every year, thousands of children and their parents stand in long lines to sit on Santa's lap and tell him what they want for Christmas. Photo by Brian Berwald

Kringle choosing to give gifts on the one day of the year when the very first gift of Christmas, the Christ child, was given. So long as children understand that the point of Christmas is not Santa but Christ, there isn't any harm in telling the tale.

On the other hand, as a child who did not believe in Santa, I have always respected my parents for their honesty. As I grow older, I appreciate that more and more. I am proud of my parents for sticking to their guns in the face of a culture that raises an eyebrow to children like me. It's not an easy choice to make.

Monthly Devotion

By Stephanie Gruhn

Bet you can't guess what the theme verse for our year is, can you? I'll give you a hint: it's Micah 6:8. Rather than type it into the devotion for this month, I encourage you to look it up in your own Bible, whatever translation it may be. Think about the words and what they mean for you during this end-of-semester time.

As Christmas approaches, what does it mean to walk humbly with our God? For three of the four Sundays in Advent, the Collect of the Day begins with the words "Stir up," asking God to stir up his power and come and to stir up our hearts and make us ready for the coming of Christ. Advent isn't just a time to look forward to the celebration of the first coming of Christ. It is also a time to look forward to His second coming. We walk humbly with the God who has come among us, who came in flesh to be with us and to make us his own.

In high school, I recall being outraged when the song "One of Us" began to find time

on the radio airwaves. For those who don't know the song, the singer asks the question, "What if God was one of us?" She ponders the image of God walking lonely through the streets, pushing through crowds and taking the bus home. In the verses, she asks if the listener would want to see God's face if it meant he or she "would have to believe in things like heaven and in Jesus and the saints and all the prophets." The ironic thing about the song is that God was one of us. He came down to this earth as a little baby, to walk among us and deal with the same struggles that we face each and every day. In the season of Advent, we celebrate that coming, not just because God humbled himself and became a human, but because it was the start of his road to the cross, the act that won salvation for us. Because he died, we may live forever with him. Now we are free to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God all the days of our lives as we wait for him to come again and take us home.

January Readings

Bible Readings for the month of January

Jan. 6, 2001 (The Epiphany of Our Lord)

Psalm 72
Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Jan. 7, 2001 (The Baptism of Our Lord, First Sunday after the Epiphany)

Psalm 45:7-9
Isaiah 42:1-7
Acts 10:34-38
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Jan. 14, 2001 (Second Sunday After the Epiphany)

Psalm 36:5-10
Isaiah 62:1-5

1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Jan. 21, 2001 (Third Sunday After the Epiphany)

Psalm 146
Isaiah 61:1-6
1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 26-27

Jan. 28, 2001 (Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany)

Psalm 36
Jeremiah 1:4-10
1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13
Luke 4:21-32



(Left) Pastor Bob Benke and his family got into the spirit of the holiday season this year as they decorated the chapel of Concordia University. From white candles to beautifully decorated trees, Pastor Benke and his family are keeping the holiday season full of joy and reminding us all that Jesus is the reason for the season! Photo By Brian Berwald

A Last Look Back, Crosseyed's Last Show

By Kjell Alkire

Joel Pakan is the frontman for a band called Crosseyed. Formed of Concordia alumni, Crosseyed has played a rather non-specific brand of Christian acoustic pop since the mid-90's. The current line-up is changing, and Pakan & Co. are calling it quits. They played their last show Thursday, Nov. 30 in a packed E.M. Pearson Theater.

Another local group, Trace, opened the show with a stripped-down set of several lovely originals by songwriter Blaine Howard and exquisite rendition of Gillian Welch's "Orphan Girl." I've never heard Trace sound as solid, despite the fact that they are short a drummer. It's definitely worth looking for them at www.tracemusic.com, on Tuesday, Dec. 12 at the Living Room (Snelling and Larpenteur, 651-917-2820), or at The Dreamcoat Cafe in Stillwater on Friday, Dec. 15.

Conceived of at CSP in 1994, Crosseyed consisted of Pakan (vocals, guitar, bass),

Kirk Schipler (vocals, percussion, piano), and Stan Thompson (vocals, guitar, bass). One of the last trappings from the former "Concordia College- St Paul," Crosseyed penned the classic Lutheran Concordia college anthem "Concordia Nightlife."

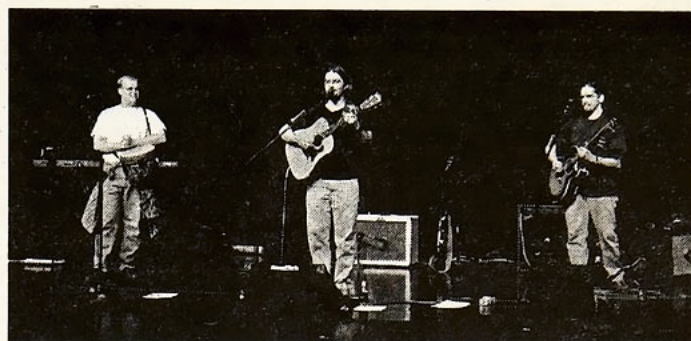


Kirk Schipler reads the last session of "Kirk's Book Nook" for Crosseyed to have more time to be a father. Photo by Brian Berwald

In total, Crosseyed has produced two CDs and supported a recent solo disc of Pakan's. A 1996 self-titled disc and a live recording, "Tesseract," was released after his graduation from CSP when he was working in Chicago as a music director in a church.

Since then, Pakan has returned to the Twin Cities to allow for more collaboration with Schipler and Thompson. This return marked the pursuit of a more professional presentation. According to www.crosseyedmusic.com, "Crosseyed has performed at churches, colleges, coffee shops and festivals around the United States. With these venues of performance, some other performances include the National Youth Gathering for the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and the opening act for Grammy award winner, Ashley Cleveland."

This last show was an accurate depiction of other recent Crosseyed performances. In years past, their sweet honest songs of faith



During their last concert, Crosseyed sings of nightlife at Concordia. All three members of the band are Concordia Alumni. Photo By Brian Berwald

have been delivered with a fervent freshness absent in the performances of similar better-known groups. However, the last few times I have seen them in concert, they have stooped to a canned, over-performed style. But when I saw Pakan perform solo in the last year, that slick rehearsed style was absent. Unfortunately, Crosseyed couldn't peek past their redundancy for the last show. However, there's hope for the critic and fan alike: the guys aren't hanging it up for good; the band is just changing shape. Kirk and his bride Tracy are expecting, and their change signals something new

for Crosseyed. It's that "something new" that has this fan eager for what's to come.

In his solo shows, Pakan has eagerly tested a slew of new songs, some eclectic covers, and a musical style that begins to hint at an alt-country feel. What a delight it would be to awaken from their hiatus and find Pakan and Thompson returning to the honesty of early Crosseyed performances and exploring new musical territory!

If you would like more information on Crosseyed, visit their website: www.crosseyedmusic.com.

Schaffer's Talents Abound



Schaffer at her voice recital in Buetow auditorium. Photo submitted

Gayle Thompson

Music has been a part of Concordia Senior Rebecca Schaffer's life for as long as she can remember. It began in her

childhood, when her parents instilled in her a love of music. Her mother was a music teacher and a church musician who encouraged her children to follow in her footsteps. "We had a music room with a piano in it where we all practiced. I didn't realize that everyone didn't have a music room in their house." Her love of music continued when she came to Concordia from her hometown of Cincinnati.

Just a year ago, finishing her music degree seemed like an impossible feat for Schaffer — she developed voice nodules that left her unable to sing. After undergoing speech therapy, she continued with her education and began preparing for her senior voice recital. She began practicing her recital music during summer voice lessons under the guidance of music instructor

Monica Murray and practiced about an hour every day, although she admits that a lot of the practice involved just singing through her music in her head in order to rest her voice.

All the practice paid off on Saturday, Nov. 11, when a huge crowd turned out to hear Schaffer. She sang several sets from a variety of time periods, finishing with the "Hermit Songs" which were short poems written by monks and later set to music. "I like them because they really humanize the monks; they show that they weren't perfect," said Schaffer.

Music is not all that interests Schaffer; she is also working toward a degree in elementary education. She plans to student teach in the fall of 2001, and teach in a Lutheran grade school after graduating.



Dr. Jeffrey Burkhart looks forward to his show

"Gospel Time in Gospel Rhyme V: Sure Can Use a Little Good News Again!" Besides writing the show and the music, Burkhart will direct the play; he is also the producer. The show runs from March 8-18 at the E. M. Pearson Theatre on Concordia's campus.

The shows are selling out fast, so order your tickets now. For more information call (651) 641-8248.

Photo by Sara Bertucci

Arts Spotlight: Bobbie Koppinger

Lara Bennett-Lambert ~ Arts Spotlight

"I want to be the best vocalist I can be," says Bobbie Koppinger, soprano singer with Christus Chorus. Koppinger also plays the alto sax in the jazz/concert bands. She chose CSP because, "I knew it had a good music program. Furthermore, I've experienced a lot in the short time I've been here."

"I've been singing since I was a child," said Koppinger. Her family was not able to afford to give her voice lessons when she was young, yet she continued to win top awards at competitions during junior and senior high school. Koppinger's talent was recognized in junior high when she received her first school choir award. Koppinger said, "That was my first award; however, I began to receive more and more as the years went on."

Koppinger also appeared solo during her senior year at a statewide honor choir festival in Minot, N.D., and starred as a state level soloist in the solo/ensemble festival during her sophomore through senior years. During her senior year at Dickinson High School in North Dakota, Koppinger received a national choral award and was part of the women's all state choir.

Academic and band scholarships have allowed her to fol-

low her interests in music. Koppinger says, "Practice is important, I practice six days a week for at least an hour. Jazz and concert band is what I like to do for fun. I am still studying the instrumental aspect, but voice is what I want to do."

This fall Koppinger began working on her junior recital which is scheduled to take place this spring. Koppinger recently participated in a Monday Noon Recital, presented by the CSP Department of Music. She performed a repertoire which included pieces from Mozart, "Pupille amate;" Schumann "Du bist wie eine Blume;" and Brahms "Wie Melodien zieht es mir." These "Monday Noon Recitals" are given to aid students in their preparation for the junior and senior year solo recitals.

This year Koppinger decided take lessons during the summer with Monica Murray, her voice instructor. "I want to be really prepared for senior recital, and Monica is great," explains Koppinger; "she pushes me to do more and more, and keeps challenging my abilities. She knows my voice, and she knows what's good for my voice."

Watch for Koppinger's junior recital, along with Heather Hoff, as they are scheduled to take place on April 22, 2001 at 3:30 in Beutow Auditorium.

Suess's Classic a Hit this Season



(Above) The Grinch is played by Jim Carrey in Dr. Seuss's classic story, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. His costume took three hours a day to apply.

Lara Bennett-Lambert ~
Movie Review

The Universal Pictures *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (based on a book by Dr. Seuss), directed by Ron Howard and narrated by Anthony Hopkins had mixed reviews; however, this Concordia University student enjoyed Jim Carrey's performance as the Grinch immensely. After all, the movie did

earn \$137.4 million in gross sales for Thanksgiving opening weekend.

Relying heavily on his talent for physical comedy to act the part, Jim Carrey depicted himself greatly in this movie. Considering he was entirely covered in a latex costume (that took three hours to apply and one hour to remove each day) with oversized contact lenses and gnarly fake teeth,

he was still able to manipulate his face and limbs in a typical Jim Carrey fashion.

While this movie definitely lacks some focus on character development, one of its biggest achievements is in the set design and makeup artistry. An unbelievable 8,000 makeup appliances were used during production. Whoville was depicted as a magical place inside a snowflake where the "Whos" (90 in all) live in happiness as they busily prepare for Christmas. All of the set pieces have that familiar "Seuss effect" with bizarre curves, angles and unique coloring and texture. "Who" hair-dos and costumes also reflect the Dr. Seuss style with creative and outrageous shapes.

There are a couple of characters from the Dr. Seuss storybook, Max the dog and Cindy Lou Who,

who were portrayed, but the movie does not have the literal translation of the book. Other interesting characters are introduced, but not given much screen time to develop. Much of the focus is on the Grinch and his fiendish plan to steal Christmas from the Whos.

Most of the story line is devoted to the weird world of the Grinch, and to how he became evil, including scenes from his childhood where he was picked on by other Whos in school for being so different. Other movie critics seem to dwell on this fact. Roger Ebert had this to say, "The Grinch...has reason for grow-



(Above) A movie poster advertising *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*

ing up to be so bitter. As a child, he was picked on for being green and having hair all over his body and a beard. Show me the child who would not pick on such a classmate and I will show you Baby Jesus, but if [Howard] had only worked on that angle some more, had drummed up a little more sympathy for the Grinch, maybe we wouldn't want to pick on him too."

True, I didn't have much sympathy for the Grinch in the end, and I found myself wondering why Cindy Lou Who bothered to put so much effort in trying to figure out this nasty, pessimistic, Christmas kill-joy, but I didn't pay money to see reality played out on the screen. Furthermore, I suspended that at the door and simply enjoyed the show. It was definitely worth it.

Vermeland Photos at Cafe

By Kjel Alkire

As the snow falls and finals approach, students begin to flock to warm, cozy spots where the caffeine's consistent and the couches encourage. If you are looking for a nice spot to study away from campus, head on down to Espresso Royale in downtown Minneapolis.

Espresso Royale is home to CSP photography professor Cate Vermeland's current photography exhibition. Vermeland was curator of the recent Biennial Photo Exhibition in the Tunnel Gallery on campus.

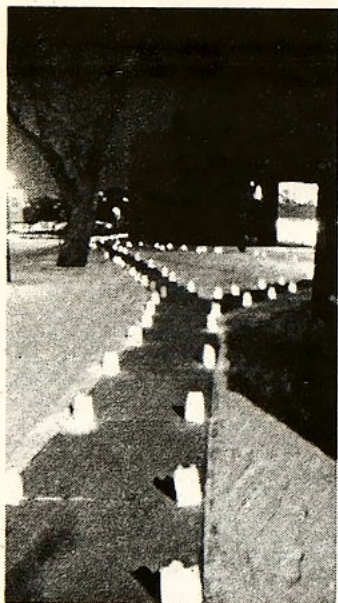
Twelve black and white photos hang on Espresso Royale's walls, one for each month of the calendar. I was inspired by her reading, especially when Vermeland explained her interest in the significance of the seasons and specific mood of each month. Each image captures residential landscape, which is another fascination of Vermeland's.

Using trees as a motif, these 12 images reveal a delightful depth into the issues proposed in the artist's statement accompanying the art.

The suite is broken into halves; rather light images January through June hang together contrasted by the rich blacks of July through December.

Stop by, stay a while, drink the beverage of your choice, check out good art and stay warm! Espresso Royale is on the northeast corner of Hennepin and 13th Street South.

Gloria : Success



(Above) The walkway was lit with candles to help add a festive glow to the Gloria concert. Photo by Brian Berwald

Well over 100 students participated in the "Gloria" Christmas Concert performed on December 9 and 10.

"This concert focuses on the first explosion of praise from the mouths of the angels the night of Christ's birth. 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to all.' These words from the second chapter of St. Luke's Gospel became the basis for a hymn of praise sung in the Latin worship service of the early church. They are still sung each Sunday throughout the world 2,000 years after that first angelic song. The three phrases of the angel's song extol the Trinity: the Father in glory on high, the Son who brought peace to earth, and the Holy Spirit, source of all good will. Following this Triune shape, our concert revels in choruses of glory to the Father, explores how the Son's Incarnation has been sung on earth, and proclaims the peace and good will Christ's redemption offers to all as revealed by the Spirit."

~Taken from concert program



(Above) At the Gloria Choir Concert, the choir lines up to sing their inspiring and beautiful songs. Accompanied by the Orchestra, the concert was a magical event enjoyed by many. Photo by Brian Berwald

Dance Class Performs Final

By Melanie Beier and Amy Gregg

With the end of the semester, comes the culmination of projects, papers and performances. The same is true for the Theater Department's dance class.

On Thursday, Dec. 14, Dance Class performed its informal showing of its final project. The show started at 5p.m. in the dance studio located in E. M. Pearson Theatre.

Dance Class I performance



(Above) The Dance Team practices their complicated dance moves in preparation for their final dance routine. Photo By Sara Bertucci

has been a work in process since the beginning of the semester. This performance combined jazz, modern, and compositions created by the students. The nine students in the class were under the teaching of Kaori Kenmotsu and Larry Lee VanHorne.

Kenmotsu said, "This class is a combination of dance and theater, it's cross training to help those who are going into any type of theater."

These students also performed the "Boars tooth dance" in South Pacific. These two performances aided in their skills as dancers, and also allowed the students to more thoroughly realize the aspects of performing dance.

If this sounds like an intriguing class, you might want to register for Dance Group II which will be offered next semester. Contact the Registrar or VanHorne for more information.

Women's Basketball on Winning Streak



(Above) In the last few seconds in the game against Winona State on Dec 9, Concordia University Golden Bears crash the boards for the rebound. The Golden Bears won this first conference game by twenty points and are on a 4 game winning streak. Photo by Brian Berwald

By Kristina Shaw
It's been a long, cold 6 years full of almosts, not-quites, and what-ifs. But beyond every winter lies an invincible summer and Concordia Women's Basketball Team is beginning to heat up the court. The last time Concordia Women's Basketball Program has had a three game winning streak was in 1994. But Concordia, sitting at 4-2 overall, is on a 4 game winning streak, breaking the long record of continuous L's.

Now, with three at-the-buzzer pre-season wins against Mankato State, Rockhurst and Truman

University, and a 20 point win against Winona in their first conference game, the Golden Bears have begun the long climb to the top.

Under the new Head Coach of Paul Fessler, the Golden Bears are off to a strong start with a 3-2 record in pre-season play. Fessler brings considerable experience in winning to the Concordia program.

While Head Coach at Anoka-Ramsey Community College, he boasted a 101-18 win-loss record and led his team to three National Junior College Athletic Association championships and one runner-up title. He was also

named 1999 Minnesota Community College Coach of the Year and has been Region 13 Coach of the Year for the past four seasons. Rounding out the experienced coaching staff are Assistant Coaches Michelle Helfrey, Maegan Prickett and Reed Caouette.

The Golden Bears have a strong roster this season, with eight returners from last year and six seniors who add experience and leadership to the team.

With all twelve players contributing in some way to the wins, the Golden Bears have beaten three favored-to-win teams at the buzzer.

The Mankato State game

was the Bears' home opener and with a lay-up by Suzy Miller at the buzzer the Bears' captured their first win of the season.

The ball kept rolling as the team traveled down to Kansas City for back to back games. Here, they beat Rockhurst University by three in the last few seconds of the game as Suzy Miller once again stepped up and hit two key free throws.

Against Truman University, freshman Jill Kalvik hit a turn-around jumper with

1.5 seconds left in the game to put the Golden Bears up by one and sealed the victory.

On Dec. 9 the Bears' first conference game was against Winona State at home. The Golden Bears took an early lead and kept it the entire game, shutting out the Warriors by twenty points. The Women's Basketball team is now 1-0 in conference play, 4-2 overall.

It has been an exciting couple weeks for the Golden Bears. "[Winning four games in a row] is not unexpected," says Fessler, "The only thing

that is surprising is that it happened sooner than I thought it would this season. But we are not satisfied with a four game streak, we want more."

No one on the Women's Basketball team is settling for a simple four game streak, however. Everyone is optimistic towards the upcoming games and looking forward to adding more W's to the schedule. The last time the Golden Bears have had a 5 game winning streak was in 1985.

"[Keys to success we are focusing on this year] are hard work, commitment, heart and the team becoming a family," said Fessler. The Golden Bears, who won only six games last season, have already shown drastic improvement thanks to the intense coaching tactics of Fessler and players' dedication.

"We have a good basketball team that got to remember how to win," Fessler said.

And, as their record shows, the Women's Basketball Program has not only remembered what a win feels like, but are well on their way to making sure they never forget again.

We have a good basketball team...

Come Cheer On CSP Basketball

By Carrie Schierschmidt
Even though there is a break from classes until Jan. 17, 2001.

The men's and women's teams are staying busy this Christmas Break.

If you are looking for something to do while classes are not in session come cheer on your Golden Bears.

The teams are looking good this year and it would be great to start the conference games with wins. But they need your help by cheering them on.

Even if you are not going to be on campus, maybe you can attend an away game.

(all HOME GAMES are in caps)

Date	Opponent	Women/Men Times
Jan. 5	CROOKSTON	5:30pm/ 7:00pm
Jan. 6	MOORHEAD	5:30pm/ 7:00pm
Jan. 12	Bemidji State	5:30pm/ 7:00pm
Jan. 13	UM-Duluth	5:30pm/ 7:00pm
Jan. 19	UM-MORRIS	5:30pm/ 7:00pm
Jan. 20	NORTHERN	5:30pm/ 7:00pm
Jan. (TBA)	CIT @ River Forest, IL	
Jan. (TBA)	Winona State	



(Below) Concordia Students are getting some much-needed stress relief through some unorthodox ways. Climbing the wall at Gangelfhoff Center is just one way students work out their end of the semester stress through exercise. Photo by Katy Baxter

Sports Spotlight: Coach Ernest T. Jones

By Joe Austin
"Find a reason to do something, rather than not to." This is the advice of Concordia football's defensive back coach and former San Diego Charger, Ernest T. Jones.

"Don't make excuses. Make reasons why it can happen," he says. All of his life, Jones has been finding reasons and making things happen.

Despite having his NFL career cut short because of his age, he was a 28 year old rookie, Jones makes things happen for the Golden Bear football team.

Jones, currently serving in his first season as the defensive back coach for the Concordia University football team, has taken a road not traveled by many en route to Concordia. His story is one of adversity and obstacles, all of which he overcame.

Growing up in a home where his mother relied heavily on him to help raise his younger brother and sister, Jones said, "I was forced to grow up early, and I've always worked since I was 11. That's all I know is to work hard, that's what molded me." According to Jones, the work ethic that was instilled in him at such a tender age taught him, "[To] find a reason to do something, rather than why not to." He also adds, "That's what drove me through life. I made things happen; I set precedents."

Jones began setting precedents during high school, where he was a 3.0 student and excelled to the highest level in basketball, football, and track. "I went to a predominantly white school and I was the President of every class, and then I was the school President my senior year. I was the first male President ever in the school and I was also the first African American President the school had ever had."

After high school, Jones opted to join the military. "My mom wasn't high on sports, so she put the military on me and I went to the Air Force." As a medical technician, Jones worked in emergency rooms and played basketball and football for the teams at his base. "My time in the military was fun," Jones said with a smile, "Because I was always an athlete."

Following his time in the Air Force, Jones still had the desire and ability to continue his athletic career. "I wanted to go [to college] and be a biology and chemistry major so I could be a doctor if that [athletics] fell through." Jones set about calling up all of the division I schools that had recruited him

out of high school. "None of the big schools would touch me," he said. Fortunately, Jackson State gave Jones a chance. "They said that if I came down they'd red-shirt me and give me a scholarship. I didn't want to red-shirt. I knew I was older and more mature than anybody

Don't make excuses. Make reasons why it can happen.

Luckily, a second option offered itself to

Jones. "At that same time, the offensive coordinator from Jackson [State] moved to Alcorn State and said, 'If you come down here, we'll play you right away.'" Jones entered Alcorn as a true freshman wide receiver with current Tennessee Titans quarterback, Steve McNair. The two freshman clicked, records were broken, and four straight SWAC conference championships came to Alcorn. Despite all the success Jones had in college, he learned key lessons about adversity that will serve him throughout his life and help him inspire others he comes in contact with. "I've experienced losing, I know how to lose, but I've always been a winner. That's the way I am and I hope it goes into the team." Winning the new-comer of the year award as a freshman, Jones was first team all conference before his college days ended. His talents were at times put to use by all three parts of the team—offense, defense and special teams.

Of as much importance as athletics, Jones graduated in three and a half years with a degree in biology and a minor in chemistry. "I was proud to be an athlete and not a 'dumb jock,'" attests Jones. "I graduated with a degree where I did a thesis my last year and had to speak in front of the whole department in order to graduate." With all of his accolades in college, it looked as if a professional football career waited in the wings, but as he would soon learn, his age would be a factor

that would come back to haunt him. "I didn't get drafted, that was disappointing, so I signed a free agent contract with the San Diego Chargers." For an NFL rookie, his age which had been 28, made him a high-risk proposition and most likely accounts for his pass in the draft. A second political move also played into his landing in San Diego.

Jones says, "My agent put me in that situation [San Diego], and it probably wasn't the best situation for me." Jones believes that other places in the NFL

would have been more advantageous for him to play, but the business of the game left the situation largely out of his hands.

In two years with the Chargers, Jones saw action as a wide receiver and a special teams player. After fulfilling his contract obligations in San Diego, Jones signed with the Jacksonville Jaguars, though the situation never worked out to Jones's liking. "I didn't make it as long because of my age," reflects Jones. "It's about business and politics, and I understand that. I accept that. I went to Jacksonville, and it didn't really work out there and I realized I really wanted to work with kids," bringing Jones to his current line of work, coaching football at Concordia University.

"I love kids," said Jones, "They're our future and I always have time for kids. I decided, I will do everything possible to be a coach. My career means everything; I believe in my abilities. I'll die as a coach. I'll die

right there on the field. God gave me that gift, to play and to speak and teach people." With the pedigree Jones possessed, the offers rolled in. "I had a high school head coaching offer; I turned down some big time schools," two of which were Michigan State and Mississippi State. With big time offers on the table, why Concordia?

"I visited every school that made me an offer except here," confessed Jones. "People who know me said I was nuts. I'd never been to Minnesota but I liked coach [Shannon] Currier. I thought he was sincere. I was excited about being able to turn around the program and implement things that are in me, and I'm gonna be loyal, I'm not thinking about leaving or going somewhere else." In addition, Jones feels a sense of duty to give back some of the things he has been blessed with. "I give so much because I've been given so much," said Jones. "I want to

be a role model, put that on my shoulders. I don't want to be remembered for athletics; I want to be remembered for my ability to give back and touch people." Because of his desire to give back, Jones hopes to go back to the NFL as a coach. "The higher I go, the more I can give back and the more lives I can touch. I'm not in it for money or glamour." "I'm not the best, I'm not perfect, but I try to do my best in everything I do. If I tell you I'm gonna do it, I'll do it, and if I don't, I'll stand by it," Jones said, summing up his prevailing attitude in life. "I'm a hard worker, I'm determined, and I've got desire. I fear failure, that's something I'm afraid of in life."

Reflected by the success of the Golden Bears in the 2000 football season, along with his qualities and experiences, the prospects of Jones' coaching career appear bright.

Who Shakes Their Rump?



(Above) The dance team practices their routine in preparation for their halftime routine at the basketball game. Photo by Katy Baxter

By Katy Baxter

Can you do The Polka, Line Dancing, Square Dancing, The Waltz, Swing Dancing, Ballroom Dancing or the Chicken Dance? If you appreciate the art of dancing you will certainly enjoy the Concordia University Dance Team.

Have you ever seen them? They have performed at the Homecoming football game as well as the Talent Show. If you failed to take notice, then you missed some great performing.

The Dance Team is made up of 10 students who tried out this past fall for the team. The 10 members' dedication to the team is evident by the many hours throughout the week they practice.

These sessions contain a mixture of hard work, repetition, and dedication. What is even more amazing is that the ladies do their own choreography. They choose the kind of music they like and create a routine to fit with it.

Using complicated moves

and jumps, the Dance Team seeks to please the audience and to please the crowd. They practice to perform.

The coach AnnMarie Froehle helps the ladies perfect and improve their routine by carefully watching and critiquing what she observes. Their goal is "Making a performance so the crowd really enjoys it, as well as 'wowing the crowd,'" says Froehle.

This is Froehle's first year coaching the CU Dance Team, which has only existed for six years.

"The best part is the girls. They are fabulous and they practice hard," said Froehle. At the moment the team is not competing, but there are many opportunities to see them perform.

The Dance Team performs at basketball games. The next performance you can see is on Dec. 9 at the men's and women's games. They also will be performing

Jan. 4 at the basketball

games. One thing they look forward to is the games in

February when they get to include some guys in their dancing. Another highlight of their year will be the Concordia Invitational Tournament, in which they get to compete against other Concordia dance teams.

If you still have dancing on your mind, this spring there will be another set of try-outs for the team.

So, if you are sick of doing the Chicken Dance, go watch the CU Dance Team perform.

Fleischman, Werman Honored

Those who are student-athletes know the combined stress of balancing their school and academic workload.

Two athletes have found a way to excel in both and were honored for not only their excellent performance on the field but in the classroom as well.

On Saturday, Dec. 9 at halftime of the Men's Basketball game Jodi Werman and Andy Fleischman were honored with plaques for their recognition for being named NAIA Academic All-Americans.

Werman is a senior Cross Country runner from Plymouth, MI. Fleischman is a senior from Lester Prairie, MN, was named Academic All-American as well.

Congratulations to both Werman and Fleischman!

ASK BIG CAT

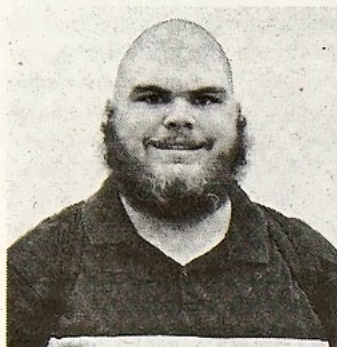


Photo by Brian Berwald

Dear Big Cat,
I usually get along pretty well with my family, but after I've been away at school for a couple of months I'm anticipat-

ing lots of stress at home. How can I avoid the fighting next time I go home, when it will be for Christmas break and a whole month together?

Returning to the Nest

Dear Nest,

Your problem has given me an idea. Would you mind if I were to bring a camera crew to your house and tape your family? Then we can put it on television and every couple days you can vote one member of your family out of the house. I don't know what the winner would get, but that is just a minor detail. What do you say? All right, I suppose that it probably wouldn't be the greatest idea. I guess one thing I would need to know is if you

want to just avoid the fighting or if you would rather try to resolve the problems.

To ignore it you can try two approaches. The first of which is to not go home for Christmas. You can always come home with me. My number is 641-8#%@. If you choose this option, however, you cannot have my part of the Christmas dinner. Sorry, but I will not part with my food. If you want to shove me off, and would like to go to your house for Christmas then your problem is a little more difficult. The best answer to this is the traditional answer for all problems. Go to God in prayer. As easy as this sounds, it is actually quite difficult. It is one thing to say the words of a prayer, but

a whole different thing to trust that God will hear and answer it. But one thing is certain; God will hear your prayer and will never desert you. These times of hardship could very well be what your family needs to bring it closer together. I hope that your Christmas break is wonderful. And if you want to do that television show thing, give me a call.

Feeling for you, Big Cat

Dear Big Cat,

My roomy has a lot of money and I know where it is, what's the worst that can happen if I take some?

Testing the System

Dear Testing,

First I would like to say: 'Who let the dogs out?! Woof! Woof, woof, woof, woof!!!' All right, now since I have gotten that out of my system, I would like to say right here and now that I am not an accomplice to any actions that might be taken because of my response. Now I would like to ask you what are you thinking? What do you think would happen? Have you ever heard of the term 'theft'? But the consequences only come if you get caught. So there are a few things that you should remember. First, what do you need the money for? Money cannot buy happiness. But it can buy a life time supply of Nutty Bars. Remember that God claims you as his own, and he wants you to remain faithful to Him. If you really need money, God probably has a better way for you to get it. But if you do take that money, watch out for the society police from the galaxy of Hilingvaum. They really dislike thieves. But if they take you away, ask for Trivlel and tell him that you know the Big Cat. He owes me a few favors.

Known Throughout the

Galaxies, Big Cat

Dear Big Cat,

I've been in college a few years now, but I can't seem to find the answer to the eternal question: Why is life so stressful!!!! Please send me guidance!

Stressed at Semester

Dear Semester,

First off I didn't think that this was the eternal question. The eternal question is How much can Big Cat actually eat before he throws up? But that is my eternal question. As for your eternal question, the answer is quite simple. The reason that life is so stressful is that we make it that way. Everyone needs to find something that can release their pent-up stress. As for me, I like to chase poor, defenseless first year students around campus and threaten their safety. Of course, I mean nothing by it, but nonetheless it provides a great workout. This might not offer you the same fulfillment as it does me, but there has got to be something that gives you a release. Maybe taking a few minutes to read the word of the Lord would help you to relax. Or you could always play a rousing game of 'Chutes n Ladders'.

Calm and Comfortable, Big Cat

Note From the Writer:

Hey, all you troubled people. In order for the great advice and rageful comedy to continue, I need your questions. So if you have any good questions for me to answer, you can send them to me via email at DAVISJ2@proverbs.csp.edu. I will try to answer as many questions as possible. But remember I am a theatre major not a psych major. Thanks for the questions.

Big Cat

Help Desk Hustles in Morning

By Tim Breitbarth

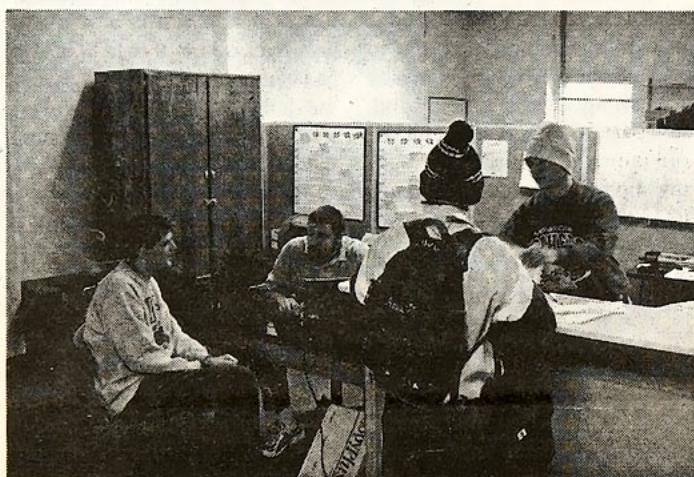
It is 7a.m., and Shannon Moran enters the library for another day of work at the Concordia University Technology Help Desk. She drops off her books and laptop behind the desk and then goes about turning on the lights on her side of the library. Once all the lights are glowing, she sits down behind the desk and turns on Xena, the help desk computer. With a simple beep, Xena comes to life.

Moran checks the help desk e-mail and voicemail, which yield no new messages, and begins opening the necessary programs on Xena in order to help people. Among them are the User Manager, which can alter user accounts and passwords; the Computer Inventory database, which tracks all the laptops on campus; and Track-It, which is the Information and Technology Department's work-order database.

After all of this is completed, Moran goes about connecting her laptop to the network and waiting for calls to come in. Early morning is usually a slow time for the help desk. "Usually when it is slow like this I do homework, but I am already done with my homework, so now I am e-mailing people," she says.

At 7:51a.m., a little later than usual, the Help Desk gets its first customer. Dr. Jeffrey Burkart returns a computer projector that he had used off-campus the previous day. Moran signs it back into the log and places it in the metal cabinet that houses audio/visual equipment.

At 7:55a.m., Help Desk Coordinator Lynelle Peterson walks in the door and says hello to Moran. "It only took me about 18 years to get here. I hardly touched my gas pedal the entire drive," she says about her commute from her home in Stillwater. She strides over to the large schedule on the wall



Concordia University's Technology Help Desk on a busy morning. Photo by Brian Berwald

where the AV requests are posted. "What's the deal with 1p.m.?" she asks, referring to the unusually large number of requests in the 1:10p.m. time slot.

Peterson does not pursue the issue. There are far greater things for her to think about right now, beyond the Help Desk. Peterson is nine months pregnant with her first child, a boy, which could come at any moment. After the baby is born, she will take six weeks off of work. While she is gone, her responsibilities will go to her boss Mike Mulso and staff member Andy Thompson, but the help desk mainly will be in the hands of the 13 student workers.

Helpdesk Visit

continued from page 10

"Hopefully, we have our system firmly in place so that things will run smoothly while I am gone," Peterson said.

Peterson goes on to say that the student workers will have to shoulder most of the responsibility: "Mike and Andy can only do so much. Mike already has too much to do. Some days he runs around here like a chicken with its head cut off. Andy is busy too. Plus he's getting married in December, and then he's leaving."

At 8:24a.m., Peterson becomes aware of a mix-up in AV setup for that day. One of the rooms that needed a com-

puter projector for an 8:30a.m. class did not receive it because it was given mistakenly to a room that needed it later in the day. Jonika Stowes, who has just arrived for work, goes about correcting the situation.

During this time, Thompson has also entered. "If it were a little colder, all this rain would be snow," he says, referring to the gloomy weather outside. A recent Concordia graduate, Thompson began working at the help desk this fall. According to Peterson, he was brought in to help out so that Mulso and herself would not be so overworked. Needless to say, Thompson has been valuable to the help desk this fall.

The customers begin coming in more frequently until they finally seem to come as steadily as the rain falling outside. A faculty member needs a password changed. An off-campus student is having problems dialing into the network. Another student has a problem printing. A faculty member is having trouble with Microsoft Front Page.

Eventually, the busiest time of the day comes. Many students pour into the library while others stream into the chapel. The library is buzzing. The help desk workers are scurrying around helping people. It is going to be a busy day. And it is only 9:25a.m.



The plight of the struggling beginning juggler

Concordia Speaks:

What is your favorite Christmas tradition?

By Carrie Wissbeck



~ Katie Baas

"On Christmas Eve, my extended family gets together and we make pizzas."



~ Dan Borkenhagen

"My favorite tradition is going to the Christmas pageant on Christmas Eve."



~ Tina Bergmann

"I like wrapping presents for my younger brother using an entire roll of tape so they're hard to open."



~ Bruce Burnside

"My dad and I always watch Miracle on 34th Street...the original, not the remake."

Street...the original, not the remake."

~ Annie Bjostad

"My dad makes oyster stew and tries to get us to eat it, but the only one who eats it is him."



~ Micah Stohlmann

"Baking and decorating Christmas cookies with Bruce. It's a new tradition..."

Bruce. It's a new tradition..."

~ Becky Burton

"Going to Christmas Eve services with my family."



~ Brad Mussell

It's Tradition, Isn't It?

By Rhonda Nestrud

It's tradition. You've probably heard this phrase once or twice over the years. It's the reason we eat lutefisk for Christmas dinner, hang up that awful Christmas ornament aunt Freda gave us 15 years ago, and it must be the reason we drive five hours on Christmas day to visit relatives we don't even know when all we wanted to do was play with that new Cabbage Patch doll! But, it's tradition.

Not all traditions are bad, though. My family still gets together every year to decorate our tree, and the stockings always get hung on the staircase. The same "rejoice" picture is put up in my kitchen (even though it hangs crooked) and we will always open JUST ONE present on Christmas Eve.

My greatest memory is baking Christmas sugar cookies. Every year a few days before Christmas, my sister, my parents and I dig out the old family cookbook and make my mom's famous sugar cookies. The process usually takes all day and we end up with

enough cookies to feed the entire town (I live in a town of 200) and all of our friends for the next week or two.

The fun part is the decorating. No two cookies can look alike, and we've become very creative over the years. My sister has her patented "choir people" with rosy cheeks and my dad has invented the "tie-dye Santa." We listen to Christmas music on the old record player (yes, I said record player) and talk about the gifts we've bought. Then, after all the cookies are decorated and the 50 different colors of frosting are used up, we sit downstairs and watch "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" starring Chevy Chase. My dad laughs hysterically, and we girls laugh at my dad. It always ends up being a lot of fun.

Like my family, many Concordia students have all sorts of family traditions over Christmas, too. Many of them even come from different parts of the world, which gives them their own view of Christmas. "We always get up really early

to open presents in our pajamas and then go to the mountains" said Shiloh Alexander, who comes from southern California. Tiffany Dressen's family traditions come from her Swedish heritage. "Our Christmas dinner always has lefse, lutefisk and Swedish meatballs." Shannon Moran's family celebrates Christmas Day by "going out for Chinese dinner and then going to see a movie."

Christmas is a time of family, friends and togetherness. A time to reflect on what is really important in our lives. Each of us has our own ideas and beliefs about Christmas and how we spend this special holiday. But no matter what we do or where we do it, we must remember what we are truly recognizing: The divine birth of our Lord and Savior. For God gave us this Christmas holiday as a time of celebration, and celebrate we will. It's tradition.

Christmas Break Info

Compiled by Rachel Nestrud

Christmas break officially begins Thursday, Dec. 21 after the last final.

Food service will end with lunch that day.

Residents moving out of the hall need to move out and return keys before the halls close Dec. 22.

The residence halls will be closed from 6p.m. Friday, Dec. 22 until 12 noon Tuesday, Jan. 2.

During this time all halls will be dead bolted. Residents will not be able to stay in the hall or access the hall.

Food service will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2001.

Spring semester classes begin Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Health and Safety Checks: Health and Safety checks will be conducted in all residence halls before the halls are dead-bolted for Christmas on Dec. 22.

The check will be done by your RA and either Craig Stern, Lori Leonard or Sharon Krueger.

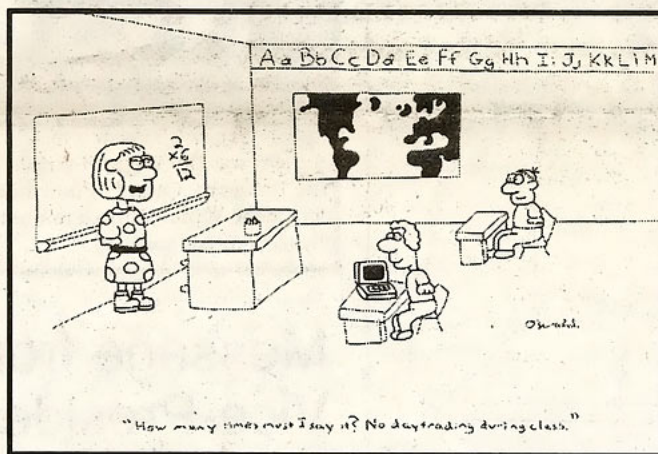
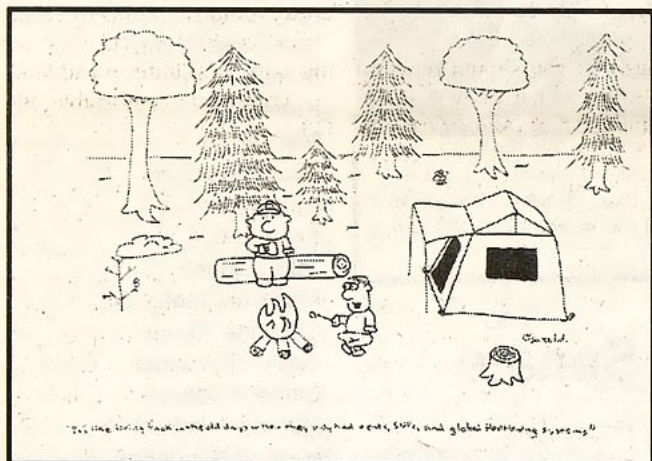
The following health and safety items will be checked:

Smoke detector
Door closer
Furniture inventory
Everything unplugged (including refrigerators)

Windows closed
Heater off (if applicable)
Visual check for any health/safety concerns or policy violations

Closets, desks and dressers are not opened as a part of the health and safety check.

Your RA will notify you of when health and safety checks will be done.



Snow Emergency Alerts

Compiled by Rachel Nestrud

Questions and Answers about Snow Emergencies in the City of Saint Paul

What is a NIGHT PLOW ROUTE?

A major street, i.e., Concordia Ave., Marshall Ave., Hamline Ave.; and one side of north-south residential streets (for CSP the campus side of Syndicate/Carroll/Griggs.) These streets are posted 'Night Plow Route.'

When do I move my car?

The night plow routes are plowed beginning at 9 p.m. when a snow emergency has been declared. Move your car off these streets until the plows have come through and cleared the snow to the curb. Once the street is cleared you may park there again.

When are the other streets plowed?

Beginning at 8 a.m. the next day there is no parking on all remaining unplowed streets, specifically the

Dunning Park side of Syndicate/Carroll/Griggs and east-west residential streets i.e., Dayton Ave. Once the plows have cleared the street you may park there again.

How will I know if the City of Saint Paul has declared a Snow Emergency?

Radio and television stations will make announcements. If several inches of snow has fallen you should listen for an announcement. If possible security will send voice mail messages, but don't rely on getting the information that way.

Where can I park my car? Lots D and E are good options.

What happens if I don't move my car?

You can expect to get a ticket, and your car may be towed.

Where can I get more information?

Call 651-266-PLOW (266-7569)

St. Paul's snow emergency plan:

St. Paul will declare snow



Be aware of snow emergency alerts. Your car may be ticketed or towed.

Photo by Brian Berwald

emergencies after snowfalls of three inches or more; they also may be declared if there has been an accumulation of three inches of snow or more over several days. All streets are either night plow routes or day plow routes. Night plow routes (the first phase of a snow emergency) have red and white plowing signs. Day plow routes (the second phase of a snow emergency) do not have plowing signs. During each phase, parking is banned until streets have been plowed to the curb.

Violators will be tagged and towed.

Night Plowing: When: 9p.m. to 6a.m. Where: Busy streets marked with signs that say NIGHT PLOW ROUTE, one side of north-south residential streets with signs that say NIGHT PLOW ROUTE THIS SIDE OF STREET and all downtown streets.

Day Plowing: When: 8a.m. to 5p.m. Where: East-west residential streets, plus one side of north-south residential streets - the side without night plowing signs.

ASHE Conference a Success

By Jake Schunk

On Nov. 9-12, 2000, the Executive Board of Concordia University's Student Senate went to a national conference in Bronxville, New York.

This conference included all of the other Concordia schools in the United States that make up the Association of Students for Higher Education (ASHE).

The purpose of this conference is not only to accomplish some duties that need the input and work of all Concordia University Student Senates, but also to provide an

opportunity for us to unite and become better links in the Concordia University system.

This year I was elected to serve on the ASHE board fulfilling the position of Assistant Executive Secretary, which begins Dec. 12 and will last for one year.

The ASHE Board is only made up of two positions and the other position of Executive Secretary will be served by the Student Body President of Concordia in Seward, NE.

We will be in charge of planning the conference for 2001, which will be held in

Austin, TX.

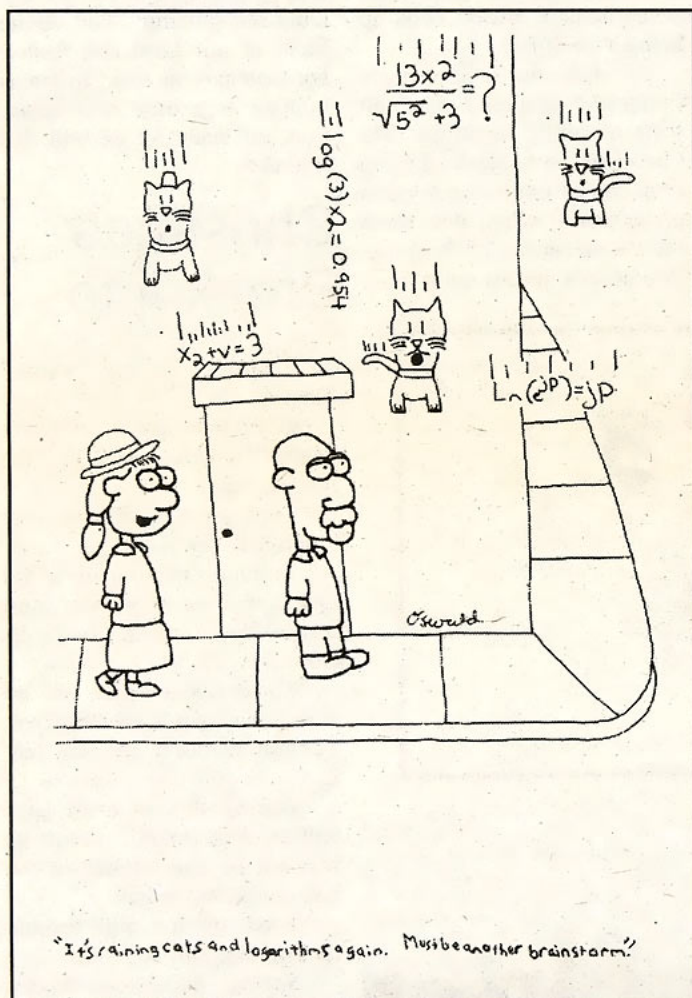
Because one of my duties is to act as a liaison between all of the other Concordias, it will be my responsibility to get all information needed out to the other Concordia campuses in the nation so that they can participate in the conference in November 2001.

I am also required to be a representative for ASHE when needed, which will result in my responsibility to attend the BHE/CUS conference in Selma, AL early next fall. This is one of the biggest meetings involving Presidents, Deans,

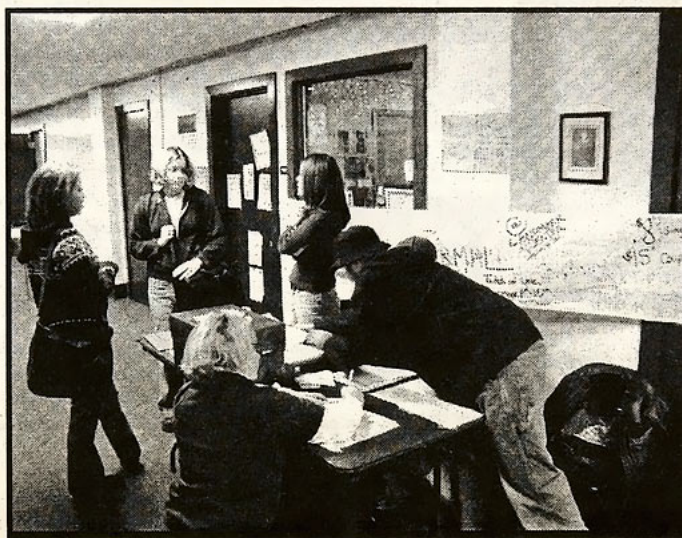
and Vice presidents of each campus throughout the nation.

Another one of my duties is to keep track of all records for the association throughout my term and take minutes at all conferences or meetings related to ASHE.

It will be a busy year, but I find great joy in the opportunity to fulfill this position and am looking forward to doing my best to make things happen for the Association of Students for Higher Education.



"It's raining cats and logarithms again. Must be another brainstorm!"



Student Senate sponsored many things during this semester. One of them was the Winter Formal. Students at Concordia went to The Landmark Center in downtown St. Paul. Students bought tickets for the Winter Formal in the tunnel the week before the dance. Photo by Brian Berwald

Message from Senate Vice-President

Greetings fellow Sword readers,

This is my second attempt at writing a Student Senate article for this paper and I only hope that it gets half as many readers as "Ask Big Cat."

I suppose I will start with a few thanks.

First, I would like wholeheartedly to thank President Holst for sitting down with students at the Union December. We are truly blessed to have a President who cares as much as he does.

Also, I would like to say thanks to all who attended the Winter Formal. It was a true success and a lot of fun. Thanks also to Jennifer Dupic for working extremely hard to set up the dance, as well as you, the Sword readers, because without you it could not have happened.

Regarding Senate matters, I truly believe the first semester was a success. By "a success" I mean that the events were well-planned and well-attended.

There was a slight drop off toward the end of the semester, but that is to be expected because of finals and end of the

semester projects. I would also like to extend thanks to all of the Concordia Activities Board members and, once again, to the student body.

I think next semester will be even more successful. Look for an events calendar on the wall of the tunnel as well as in future issues of the Sword to keep track of the good times.

I miss living on campus, but from what I hear it is better than ever this year. I think I will spend most of my nights on campus next semester now that student teaching is done.

Meeting the freshman, staying up until 4a.m. with Luke Mattson, and participating in the Jake Schunk study lounge pools are just a few of the things that I can't bear to be away from any longer.

I will close now by wishing God's blessings on all of you and hoping you all have a wonderful semester.

I will see y'all around!

Karl Lauer
VicePresident
of Representatives

THE SWORD is the work of students and faculty at Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota. We welcome and encourage the feedback from all readers both inside and outside the Concordia community.

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